

The Evening Herald.

Published by

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A SANE STREET POLICY.

A LUQUERQUE's recent experiments in navigating our streets through liberal streets of men cannot be charged against the present city administration, or against any particular administration of the past. It is the fault of men and all administrators that this condition could exist, and primarily it is our own fault, the fault of the people who elect the city governments every two years, that we have permitted thirty years of these city administrations without demanding an intelligent street building and maintenance policy from any one of them.

Albuquerque apparently always has feared to charge against property to be benefited by street improvement the cost of such improvement. This attitude of favoritism toward real estate in the matter of streets is curious as contrasted with our lack of favoritism toward the same property in the matter of sidewalks. In course of acquiring our reputation of having the best sidewalk system of any city of our size in the country we have worked something very like persecution on a great number of property owners who we have compelled to build sidewalks, either where they are not needed, or where there were no streets between them or street crossings connecting them.

Why a sidewalk should be charged against the abutting property and a street charged against the abutting community is beyond comprehension. Why Bill Jones on Tenth street should be required to pay part of the street construction charge to improve John Brown's property on Third street is a mystery to us. It is also a mystery to everyone else, and because the people do not want to put out large sums of money for improving individual real estate holdings such street construction as we have accomplished has been under protest and has been meager in the extreme.

The city of Ogallala, Mo., has the best macadamized street system in the country. The "tallings" or crushed rock from the zinc and lead mine concentrator makes a surfacing which is only equalled by the crushed rock to be had at almost no expense in our own foothills.

There have been certain interests here which have protested always against the system of building streets at the expense of the abutting property. Their influence always has been sufficient in the past to prevent the adoption of that policy by any council. There have been complications in the state law. But we have now built successfully a number of blocks of paving here, which was paid for by the abutting property. Why it should be possible, fair and right to do this with asphalt and not to do it with crushed rock is not clear.

This city by the adoption of a sensible street building policy could soon have a fine street system. The city could well afford to buy and operate at municipal expense a rock crusher in the foothills. The rest of the construction should be borne by the abutting property. When this is done we will have ample money for street maintenance without heavy taxation, and we will have streets worth maintaining.

Until some such policy is adopted and made permanent we will continue to swim and wade on each and every occasion when the weather brings us a snow or a heavy rain.

WANTED—PREFECT.

EXAMPLE, according to the New York Herald, is better than precept; and thus the copy book proceeds to deliver a lecture to an audience of one, an audience consisting solely of William Jennings Bryan, secretary of state. The Herald quotes Mr. Bryan's justly celebrated query, "Why don't the nations learn that the only foundation on which nations can dwell together is love?" and proceeds with the sermon as follows:

"Nations, like the individuals composing them, are human. In a million years, perhaps, human nature may undergo the millennium, but not until then has been practical demonstration of the efficacy of the 'love theory' in bringing about the peace-

among individuals that will warrant the abolition of courts and courts and all the other instruments man has devised in his rights is mankind likely to pin its faith to the potency of love in safeguarding the rights of nations.

"The world is not lacking in proofs of the love that enemy does to the world, but even among these proofs there is enough lack of persuasiveness. Doubts of the efficacy of love as a factor of difference between nations might have some of this doubt removed if they were able to see indication of adherence to the love theory by individuals in their daily dealings with one another.

"The higher placed the example the more potent its influence for good. In the latest issue of his Commoner Mr. Bryan presents an array of Illinois election statistics to show that the vote received by Mr. Roger Sullivan, Democratic candidate for senator, was considerably less than that cast for Mr. Bryan when Democratic candidate for president. The obvious purpose of this gloomy comparison is to run salt in the wound of Mr. Sullivan."

FREE WATER IN KANSAS.

A ENABLING act that will permit the cities of Kansas owning their own water plants to furnish water free to the citizens may come from the next legislature. Governor Hodges believes it should be done and several members of the legislature have announced their intention of introducing measures which will give the cities the right to supply water free.

"Water is a necessity," says the Kansas governor. "Good, pure water is more of a necessity than anything else a city can supply and I don't know of a single good reason why a charge should be made for it to the citizens of a town."

"As a matter of fact, the furnishing of the water supply by the city would be an actual saving in health and in the money spent by the health officers in fighting water borne diseases. Many people have wells that are subject to contamination and this would be entirely obviated by a city water supply and the entire city could be guaranteed pure water all the time, instead of a large number taking chances on the water in wells."

"It seems to me that a bond issue to pay for the water plants should be taxed against the entire city. This would be for the plant alone and bringing the mains up to the city limits. All the mains in the city would be laid under the same plates as are now followed in laying of sewers."

"The cost would be taxed against the property and paid in ten annual installments. The property owner would have to pay for his service pipes the same as he pays for sewer connections. But there would be no charge for water. I do not think this should apply except to a limited amount, say fifty gallons a day for each person and all over fifty gallons used for each person would have to be paid for. Factories should have to pay for water, and a charge made for cows and horses and washing motor cars. But for the personal use of the citizens the water should be free."

There are 128 cities in Kansas with water service. Bismarck gets its water from Kansas City, Mo., and Gas City buys its water from Indianapolis. These are the only towns which do not have separate systems. Of the 128 with their own water plants only sixteen are owned by private corporations and the others being owned by the cities.

NINE THOUSAND LAWYERS ON 1916.

RESPONDENTS to letters sent out recently by the Lawyer and Bunker, a legal and financial journal of New Orleans, to nine thousand leading lawyers and bankers throughout the country, more than six thousand lawyers replied, expressing their preferences for the presidency two years hence. The letters, the paper says, were equally divided between the two great parties and the summary of results it gives is interesting. Considered it is as follows:

Republican: Mr. Justice Hughes, of New York, 1,554; James R. Mann, of Illinois, 816; Governor Samuel Whitman, of New York, 528; M. T. Herrick, of Ohio, 260; Senator Borah, of Idaho, 187; Elmer W. Johnson, of California, 58; Theodore Roosevelt, of Oyster Bay, 11. For vice-president, Senator Borah of Idaho was a 16 to 1 shot over all other names.

Democrat: Franklin K. Lane, of California, 1,119; Woodrow Wilson, of New Jersey, 787; Champ Clark, of Missouri, 786; Oscar Underwood, of Alabama, 355; George Gray, of Delaware, 126. Choice for vice-president was largely favorable to Senator Lewis, of Illinois, with the present incumbent second.

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Better facilities for the extermination of predatory animals; license fees for fishermen; closed season on bear and protection of doves are among the recommendations of the state game warden.

The state superintendent of public instruction urged a revision of the educational laws and an increased appropriation for additional help in his office. The attorney general also asks for another assistant and an increased appropriation for other expenses.

The secretary of state recommends a more rigid enforcement of the weights and measures act and asks that the sheriff of each county be made a county inspector.

Centralization of the powers of the traveling auditor's office is being sought by Republicans who, in the state platform referred to the activities of this office as "pernicious meddling." This office has conducted investigations into the accounts of many counties and, in some instances, removal of county officers has followed.

A movement has also been started to bring about the repeal of the state libel law, which a number of editors have declared to be vague and susceptible of serious abuses. A proposed substitute measure will probably be offered.

The personnel of the state senate will be the same as at the last session and will consist of sixteen Republicans, seven Democrats and one Progressive. The new house of representatives consists of 29 Republicans, 15 Democrats, one Socialist and one Progressive.

Contests involving four seats in the house have been filed. In Union county Judge O. T. Toombs, Republican candidate for re-election, and Candelario Vigil, Republican, are contesting the seats of G. C. Smith and Sergio Romero, Democrats. In Sandoval county Eleuterio Leyva, Republican, is contesting the seat of Ceilo Sandoval, Progressive. In Bernalillo county Modesto Ortiz, Republican, is contesting the election of Rafael Garcia, Democrat.

The chief candidates for speaker are Secundino Romero of San Miguel county, Nestor Montoya of Bernalillo county, and Malquecas Martinez of Taos county, all Republicans. A. B. Henshaw of Santa Fe is mentioned as a possible compromise who would be more acceptable to the Democrats.

STATE OFFICIALS ALL HAVE SOME LEGALWANTS

Legislature Which Coavenes in Ten Days Will Be Asked for Amendments and New Laws by Several Officers.

Santa Fe, N. M., Jan. 2.—Taxation and salaries for county officers are expected to form the chief subjects of legislation by the second state legislature of New Mexico which convenes here January 12. Both subjects were keenly debated at the last session of the legislature and were raised in the annual state campaign.

The adoption, at the November election, of a constitutional amendment abolishing the state board of equalization removes the central tax adjusting body and the board which fixes the valuation of national banks, railroads and other corporate property and livestock. A bill to create a state tax commission with power to inaugurate a more uniform system of assessment will probably be considered. A strong movement in favor of a lower tax rate is evident.

The question of salaries for county officers was left unsettled by the last legislature. The Republicans passed the measure but it was vetoed by Governor McDonald, who held that the figures were too high. The new legislature is also controlled by the Republicans and another deadlock is not unlikely.

A bill providing for the consolidation of the various state educational institutions is also being framed. The consolidation, if effected, would reduce the teaching force by about one-fourth. A similar bill was defeated by a small majority at the last session and the question is expected to precipitate a lively fight. The University of New Mexico is now located at Albuquerque; the State College is at Las Cruces; the Military Institute is at Roswell; and State Normal schools are located at Las Vegas, Silver City and E. Rita.

Recommendations for legislation and studies in the various state educational institutions are also being framed. The consolidation, if effected, would reduce the scope of its powers to cover all public service companies and to revise the present corporation laws, especially with reference to the incorporation of irrigation districts.

The secretary of state urges a general revision of the state laws. He also asks for an amendment of \$2,500 to be used in gathering and

Services held on the third floor of the public library building.

Bible school at 9:45 a. m.; Lesson, Acts 14; Memory test, Acts 14:22.

Presaching at 11 a. m. by Brother Ferguson.

Christian Endeavor at 6:30 p. m. in conservation meeting. Leader, Miss Catherine Douring.

The regular monthly business meeting of the official board of the church will be held Tuesday evening at the home of the chairman, 216 South Walter street. This probably will be the last meeting before the arrival of Brother Dean. A full agenda is urged.

Bible study and prayer Wednesday evening, 7:30 to 8:15, at the home of W. H. Mize, 409 North Eleventh street. Lesson, Acts, 15th chapter.

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